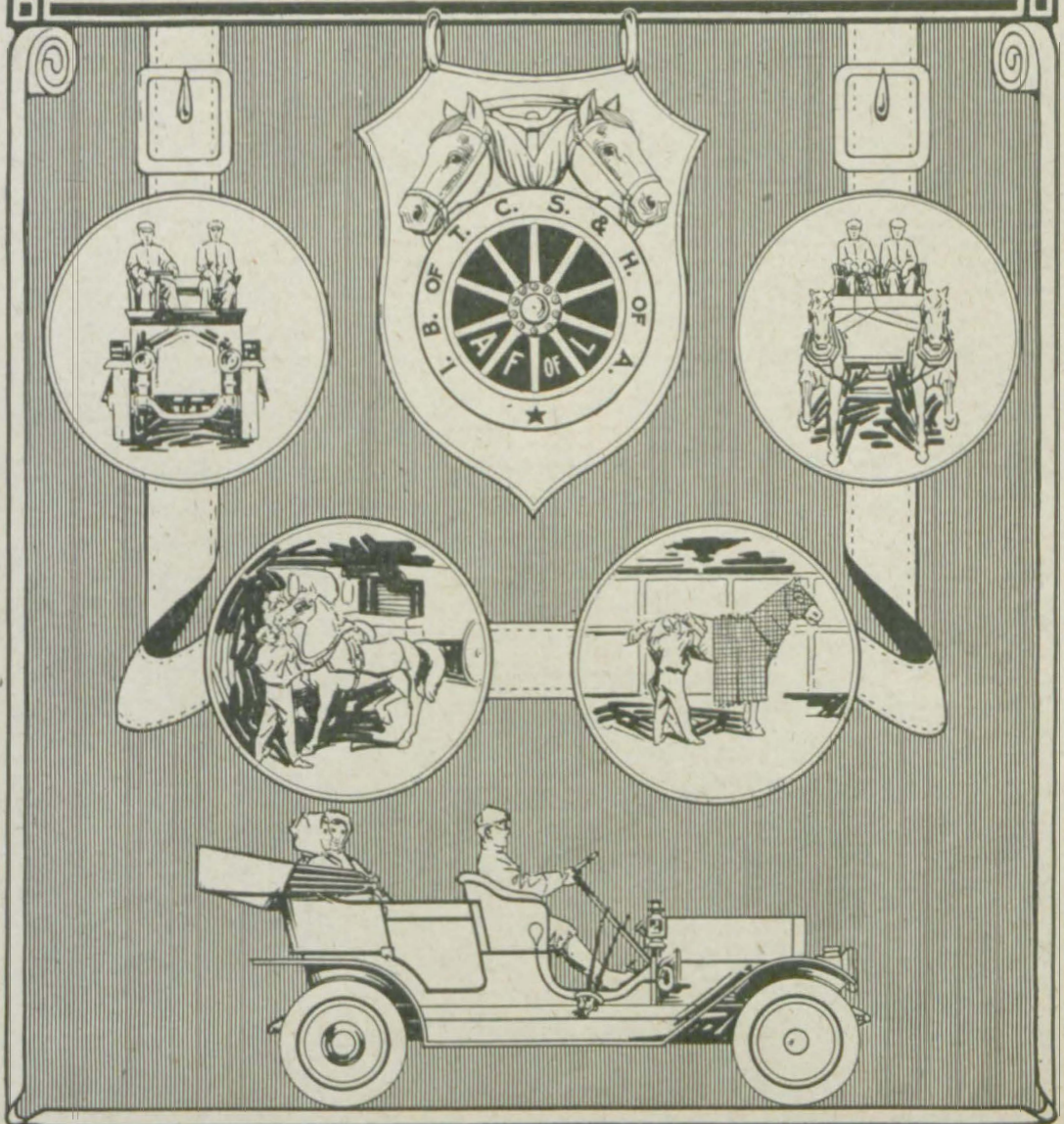


JUNE, 1918

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
TEAMSTERS • CHAUFFEURS
STABLEMEN AND HELPERS
OF AMERICA



List of Local Unions of the I. B. of T., C., S. & H. that have purchased Liberty Bonds, and the amount. We will publish a list each month of locals that have purchased bonds, as we receive the reports. Up to this time we do not have a full report of the amount of bonds purchased by our membership, but it is safe to say that 80% of our seventy-five thousand members have purchased bonds:

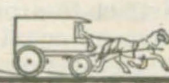
International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers	\$25,000
Local No. 753, Milk Wagon Drivers, Chicago.....	36,000
Local No. 721, General Teamsters, Chicago	2,000
Local No. 229, General Team Drivers, Scranton, Pa.....	1,000
Local No. 227, Heavy Transfer Drivers and Helpers, Troy, N. Y..	300
Local No. 742, General Teamsters, South Chicago.....	5,000
Local No. 70, Brotherhood of Teamsters, Oakland, Cal.....	2,500
Local No. 352, Coal Teamsters and Handlers, Albany, N. Y.....	500
Local No. 376, Ice Wagon Drivers, Detroit, Mich.....	3,000
Local No. 170, Delivery Wagon Drivers and Chauffeurs, Buffalo..	50
Local No. 170, Membership	2,000
Local No. 69, General Teamsters, Centralia, Ill.....	300
Local No. 69, Membership	2,500
Local No. 471, Milk Wagon Drivers, Minneapolis, Minn.....	100
Local No. 471, Membership	18,000
Local No. 617, Truck Drivers, Jersey City, N. J.....	500

A strike of the drivers and chauffeurs of Schenectady took place since our last issue. Brother Ashton writes in that he has been successful in bringing about a settlement, obtaining a substantial increase in wages for the men, and ended his report by saying that in his judgment the schedule signed by the mayor of the city, who is an employer of our membership, is one of the best wage scales in this country.

The International organization purchased \$25,000 worth of bonds of the third Liberty Loan, and as time goes on, we will purchase more.

From our local unions in every section of the country I am receiving letters carrying the information that the unions and their membership are very generous purchasers of the Liberty Bonds. Many of our members are buying them on the installment plan, thereby carrying out the spirit or request of the President of the United States—that every man do his share at home and abroad.

— OFFICIAL MAGAZINE —
**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
OF TEAMSTERS CHAUFFEURS
STABLEMEN AND HELPERS.**



Vol. XV

JUNE, 1918

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REPORT OF GENERAL AUDITOR BRIGGS



URING the months of January, February and March of 1918 I visited the States of Montana, Washington and Oregon. I visited Vancouver, British

Columbia, and I found Local Union 655 in excellent shape, with good officials and with a union shop agreement and good conditions established for the membership of this union. This has been one of the cities that for the past twelve years we have never been able to have a local union that could get a union shop agreement, but at last the members of our craft in this locality succeeded in organizing a perfect union, electing proper officers and, with the assistance of the central body and Mr. Midgley, who is secretary of same, a perfect condition has been brought around in our craft for all time to come, in my opinion, as I know that the officers of the organization and the officers of the central body will use diplomacy and conciliation to maintain the conditions and better the conditions from time to time.

In Seattle, where I visited during the month of February, I found a hundred per cent. city organized in our craft with the local unions, with good officers and good conditions and a union shop in every local union.

The Puget Sound Joint Council, which takes in all local unions within 100 miles of Seattle, conducted business in a perfect manner. It had good officers and the delegates to the Joint Council were working night and day to bring the entire district to a perfection that would have no equal any place in the United States or Canada and I am sure that they are going to accomplish this task and bring about a perfect condition from Bellingham, Wash., on the north to Centralia, Wash., on the south and to Hoquiam, Wash., on the west. It is hard for our members in the other parts of the country to understand the great effort that has to be made to perfect this district, but under the careful guidance of the Joint Council of Puget Sound and the officers and delegates thereof, their success is assured, and in my opinion too much credit cannot be given to the officers of this district for the perfect condition which they have brought about, and they are still making an effort to bring about better conditions.

On my visit to Local 162, Portland, Ore., I spent some time there and attended two meetings of this union. They have made wonderful strides since April, 1917. They have union shop conditions and the business agent is a calm, conservative, diplomatic representative, and the present executive board of the local union is an excellent one.

I paid two visits to Spokane Local 690, which is a new local union. They have the best organization that we have ever had in Spokane and it is properly conducted and properly officered. They do business in the right manner and when I left they had an agreement pending. We have got this city organized for the first time in twelve years and when they get their union shop agreement signed it will bring about a better condition in the entire part of western Wash-

ington, up into southern British Columbia and over in the Coeur d'Alene district of Idaho. It means that, with the cool, conservative, diplomatic, determined officers of this local union, they will bring about a condition in this district that will mean the bettering of conditions of all the men described in the district above.

In the State of Montana we have some very fine organizations, properly conducted, properly officered, but, in my opinion, the officers of the Montana unions have more to contend with than any officers of any other local unions in the United States and Canada. The large problems that have to be handled are carefully thought out by the executive boards of the various organizations and officers, and everything that is done in this State is done well. If the membership of our International Union could only make one of these trips with me and see where efficiency and thought brings about the desired result for the membership of this district they would be convinced that it must be handled with more care and caution at this particular time than any other district in the International Union.

In Montana, Washington or Oregon, to my knowledge or the knowledge of the officers of the local unions, there is not an I. W. W. who belongs to any of our unions, and great credit should be given to the officers in the entire district above named for keeping the wobblies out. G. W. BRIGGS.

SECRETARY DANIELS IS OPTIMISTIC

As many millions as may be needed to win the war will be sent to the battle front, Secretary Daniels declared recently in an address to the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce in behalf of the third Liberty loan.

"Let us not think in terms of

fixed numbers," said the Secretary. "Congress has provided the selective draft and when there are enough ships all these men will be on the fields of France. If there is not enough men between twenty-one and thirty-one to win the war the age limit will be changed and men of forty and fifty if need be, will respond to the colors."

The government, he said, was in the war to the full extent of the resources and man power of America.

Earlier in the day Secretary Daniels, speaking to employes of the League Island navy yard, asserted that the Kaiser's greatest disappointment was the failure of German spies and German propaganda to stir up labor trouble in the United States.

"Labor in the United States understands," continued the Secretary, "and understands perhaps better than anybody else that it depends for its life and progress and future victories on overcoming the German autocracy in this war."

"And labor is challenging German treachery and German money so successfully that today in most industries labor is turning out more war munitions and supplies than ships can transport across the water."

NOT MANY LABOR STRIKES

Secretary of Labor Wilson has arrayed facts against the noisy claims of publicity seekers who insist that the nation is seething with strikes.

In an address before the American Academy of Political and Social Science the cabinet official said that "we have fewer labor strikes at the present time than at any other period within my recollection, notwithstanding the fact that it is the period of the year when when strikes are usually most numerous."

"There is not a solitary strike in

the coal industry, the packing-house industry, in the oil industry, the lumbering industry, the ship-building industry, in the steel production, transportation, telegraph or telephone systems of the country, and only a few strikes of minor importance in the textile industry, metal trades, munitions factories and all other production enterprises.

"To summarize, the highest efficiency can only be obtained by the proper treatment of the workmen, the proper planning and management of the work to be done, the intelligent mobilizing of the workmen, efficient means of training the partly skilled and unskilled in the work they are to do, complete provisions for sanitation and safety, comfortable homes, a working day sufficiently short to enable the worker to return to his work on each succeeding day fairly refreshed for the task he has to perform. And more important than all of those is the spirit of co-operation of the man who believes he is being justly dealt with."

Secretary Wilson said the worst handicap to labor efficiency now is the heavy turnover in industry caused by men becoming easily dissatisfied with jobs and moving from place to place. Poor housing accommodations, he said, are at the bottom of much of this dissatisfaction.—News Letter.

The union label is peculiarly adapted to the nature of that factor which typifies the highest morality and controls the purchasing power of every community, to-wit: the mistress of the household.

The union label appeals not to force, but to reason; establishes confidence in place of fear; makes no one ashamed; but, on the contrary, invites and encourages the people to take pride in well-doing.

NOW THEY ARE BUDDIES

Don Martin sends a copyrighted story to the New York Herald, from his position with the American army in France, in which he declares the nickname "Sammy" has been discarded by the American troops and hereafter they are to be known as "Buddies." Mr. Martin says that while the whole country was seeking a suitable name to apply to the soldiers, they solved the matter themselves. Since then, if we are to believe the story, the French and British soldiers have begun the use of Buddy, and the United States might as well follow suit.

Perhaps Buddy is a good compromise. It is commonly accepted as a corruption of the word brother. Throughout the Middle West and the Far West one hears a man talk about his buddy. This means his pal, his partner or companion. Children say buddy when they are trying to pronounce brother. Of course the Americans who have gone abroad to fight are brothers in spirit. These fighters also are brothers in spirit of the French, the British and the Italians. Every soldier is a "buddy" to the boy who stands next to him in the trenches or who accompanies him over the top.

PATRIOTIC INVESTMENTS

Law and order underly all investments. If life and person are insecure everything else is in danger. That is the reason why the French poet wrote the lines:

"There is only one Future—that of our Country!

There is only one foresight — our Country!

There is only one Economy—our country!"

No matter how many farm mortgages you may have; no matter how many sky scrapers you may own; no matter how many flat

buildings you may have for rent, or how many factories you may be operating—every investment you have rests on the sovereignty of the United States of America. The slightest danger that confronts the United States acts as a depreciation of every piece of property you own. Your farm is valuable to you because the United States of America has enacted laws which insure your right to the fee and title of your land. Anything that weakens the authority of the United States weakens your hold on your farm. Anything that cheapens the United States of America in the eyes of nations cheapens all the investments you have. Anything that tends to bring the nation into subjection to foreign powers tends to bring your investments to a position of danger.

Every shrewd investor—every wise property owner—every sane workingman—knows that the safety of all persons and of all property in the United States rests on the safety of the United States as a sovereign power. If the United States is lost every dollar of our invested capital is depreciated or entirely wiped out.

We are engaged at the present time in a desperate war. The issue is our right to remain "free and independent." If the military tyrant of Europe beats us we must be his vassals and his slaves. To whip him and retain our liberty and to insure our independence we must win a complete victory over Germany. If we fail our mortgages and flats are worthless. The moral is: Invest in Liberty bonds and win the war!—Treasury Publicity Department.

EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL

To the Toilers of America:

Brothers—Will the battle line of freedom hold against the onslaughts of autocracy's military machine? Upon that line hangs

the destiny of the world for decades to come. The line can hold back the offensive and drive the invaders out of the Republic of France only if it is the concentrated expression of national determination unflinchingly supplying men, munitions, food, and every accoutrement required.

Workers of America, the safety of that battle line in France depends mainly now upon us. We must furnish the majority of those in the trenches. We must build the ships that carry the troops and munitions of war. Regardless of hidden dangers we must maintain the life line of ships on the high seas which connect the fighting front with our national bases of supplies. We must make the guns, the munitions, the aeroplanes. We must have ready food, clothing, blankets. We serve in the great industrial army that serves overseas with the fighting forces.

We must do all these things because a principle is involved that has to do with all we hold dear.

We are fighting against a government that disregards the will of the governed—a government that pries into intimate relations of life and extends its supervision into smallest details and dominates all of them. We are fighting against involuntary labor—against the enslavement of women and the mutilation of the lives and bodies of little children. We are fighting against barbarous practices of warring upon civilian populations, killing the wounded, the agents of mercy and those who bear the white flag of truce.

We are fighting for the ideal which is America—equal opportunity for all. We are fighting for political and economic freedom—national and international.

We are fighting for the right to join together freely in trade unions and the freedom and the advantages represented by that right.

Our country is now facing a crisis to meet which continuity of war production is essential. Workers, decide every industrial question fully mindful of those men—fellow-Americans—who are on the battle-line, facing the enemies' guns, needing munitions of war to fight the battle for those of us back at home, doing work necessary but less hazardous. No strike ought to be inaugurated that cannot be justified to the men facing momentary death. A strike during the war is not justified unless principles are involved equally fundamental as those for which fellow citizens have offered their lives—their all.

We must give this service without reserve until the war is won, serving the cause of human freedom, intelligent, alert, uncompromising, whenever and wherever the principles of human freedom is involved.

We are in a great revolutionary period which we are shaping by molding every day relations between man and man. Workers of America as well as all other citizens have difficult tasks to perform that we might hand on to the future the ideals and institutions of America not only unimpaired, but strengthened and purified in spirit and in expression—thus performing the responsible duty of those entrusted with the high resolve to be free and perpetuate freedom.

Fraternally yours,

SAMUEL GOMPERS,

President American
Federation of Labor.

LIBERALITY OF SEARS-ROEBUCK

Members of Chicago Typographical Union No. 16 employed by Sears, Roebuck & Co. did not suffer in a financial way as a result of the closing order of the national fuel administrator. And that the chapel was not amiss in recognizing the

liberality of that great mail order house toward its employes is proved by the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That the employes of Department No. 135, members of the Sears-Roebuck chapel and of Chicago Typographical Union No. 16, hereby express their gratitude to the firm of Sears, Roebuck & Co.:

"(1) For allowing full time during the enforced shutdown of five days.

"(2) For paying in full each employe despite the fact that no business is transacted on fuelless Mondays.

"(3) For allowing all employes from one to two weeks' vacation each year, said vacation being based on length of service and being paid for in full.

"(4) For the benefits derived from the Seroco Mutual Benefit Association, which gives aid during illness and provides funds for burial expenses.

"(5) For its generosity in allowing full pay during illness to those who have been in the employ of the firm for five years or more.

"(6) For conducting the most remarkable profit-sharing fund ever devised by any employer of labor. This fund enables the workers to provide against the day when their usefulness may be impaired, enabling them to live in comfort in their declining years. To the younger persons it offers an opportunity to some day become employers on their own account; and, with the splendid example set by the firm, let us hope equally humane and just to those who may work for them.

"(7) For the uniform consideration and kindness toward the rank and file by department heads and their assistants.

"(8) Aside and apart from the foregoing, for the many acts of kindness and helpfulness toward

employes who are in need of succor, assistance or advice."

THE WAR MULE

Co'se Ah been 'spectin' evah day
To heah de message come dat say
Ole Kaisah Bill done on de run—
He lose his haid, he lose his gun!

Dat news ain't come as yit, but still
'Twon't be so long now till it will,
Kase Buddy writes back frum de camp
He's got a mule dat's sho' a scamp.

De mule's name Biff, which Buddy say
Am on account he kicks dat way.
Huh? Kick? Why, Buddy say dat beast
Could kick a "Amen" from a priest.

He say ole Biff des stan' an' look
Lak he's as peaceful as a brook,
Den-all at once dem heels let go
An' whut wuz dah ain't dah no mo'.

Now whut yo' s'pose dat Buddy fool
Say he gwine do wif dat ole mule?
He say dat him an' Biff dey gwine
A-fishin' 'long de Rivah Rhine!

Bud says day'll des go loafin' 'long
Lak dey wuz gypsies—sing a song
An' fish an' laugh an' des p'tend
Lak dey wuz evahbody's friend.

Den pooty soon ole Kaisah Bill
He'll come a-sneekin' down de hill,
An' Bill he'll say, all ca'm an' cool:
"Boy, whah yo' steal ma bestes mule?"

No, Bud won't argy—he'll des say:
"Ef dat's yo' mule, take him away.
But, Bill, ef Ah wuz yo' Ah'd look
An' see ef dat's yo' mule Ah took."

Co'se den ole Bill he'll go an' feel
Dat submarine frum haid to heel,
An' Biff—he'll kick ole Bill so hahd
He'll come down in de White House yahd!
—Wm. Herschell.

Wage increase by Armour & Co.
to 15,000 people amounting to 5
per cent. will total \$1,000,000 a
year.

The union label acts as an educator, organizer and director for the public, thus making the purchaser the intelligent and friendly ally of, instead of the indifferent foe to organized labor.

EDITORIAL

(By Daniel J. Tobin.)

OF COURSE, the principal question confronting us all at this time is the winning of the war. This is as it should be, because unless we win the war all the struggles for all ages past will have been in vain. From all the information we can gain from the inside and outside, there is not any expectation of a speedy ending of this frightful conflict. The government seems to be making preparations for a long continued war. The opposition to the government, which has cropped out every now and then within the last six months, from what the writer could glean while in Washington, is becoming weaker every day. The administration is undoubtedly getting absolute control of affairs and one reason for this is because the administration has been right, or at least, has been scrupulously honest in its actions, and the situation in Europe has been becoming more serious. In other words, the radical Republicans and some trimming Democrats, that have been trying to hamper the government for political purposes, have undoubtedly become afraid of the situation in Europe. Our country is behind the present government without any doubt. As the war goes on, we will become more competent from a warlike standpoint; efficiency will increase; more thorough organization of all of the people will take place. Within the last two or three months there has been a wonderful change throughout the country in so far as complete organization of all forces getting behind the government. This has been more thoroughly demonstrated in the purchase of the Third Liberty Loan bonds than it could be in any other way, almost twenty million persons purchasing bonds. The Second Liberty Loan was taken up more rapidly than was the first, and the third loan, which campaign recently ended, was oversubscribed by a greater number of persons than either of the preceding loans, and the next Liberty loan, which will be out in the fall, will also be oversubscribed, and by a greater number of persons, because the more you organize and educate the people the faster they purchase Liberty bonds. The increased interest rate has not had any serious effect on the sale of the bonds. It is the education of the people who understand that our country is in the fight, not because we wanted to fight, but because we were forced to fight to preserve the freedom of the world. This is the reason the masses are anxious to do everything in their power to make this fight in the interest of Democracy successful, and as we go on spreading education this country will be more thoroughly organized for war purposes. Persons who cannot look very far ahead of them say, What is going to be the result of the next Liberty Loan? The working people have given up all of their money now, many of them are paying on the installment plan. The answer to this is, that the money our government is getting as a result of the Liberty loans, every dollar of it remains in this country and is redistributed for materials, for the manufacture of munitions, clothing, equipment for our army, etc. The farmer, the steel manufacturer, the mill owner, and all the other great industries are having their money returned to them again for contracts. They are working for the government, so the money is not leaving our country and every six months it flows back into the channels and sources from where it came. The wealthy classes, the manufacturing classes, the rich

bankers, etc., lend the government very valuable and able assistance in selling Liberty Loan bonds. Many large employers went so far as to almost force their employes to purchase bonds. It is true, they did not openly threaten to discharge an employe if he did not purchase a bond, but the intimidation was of such a nature that it was almost impossible for the ordinary person to work in any of those establishments unless he did purchase a Liberty bond. While on the face of it, it looks like real patriotism, at the same time there is a special reason for this—unless the bonds were purchased by the multitude the large moneyed interests would have to furnish the money for the government. We have advocated amongst our membership, and in our meetings, and through the columns of our Journal, that our members purchase Liberty bonds. Many bonds have been purchased by our members and by our unions and we want them to continue. At the same time it is an absolute crime to force a working girl in a department store, who is getting \$9.00 or \$10.00 a week, to purchase one of those bonds and pay \$2.00 a week on the bond, leaving her a balance of \$8.00 to support herself, when she is unable to support herself on the wage she is getting in its entirety. Still, there are many instances where moral force has been used, compelling people to purchase those bonds when they were practically starving on their present wages. There is another reason why the large wealthy employer and banker do so much towards the Liberty bond campaign, and that is, that the tax rate on large incomes may be increased considerably if the government is not able to obtain the money through the sale of Liberty bonds. As a matter of fact, the income tax rate in this country is less than one-third what it is in England, and so it is in all other tax rates, so that the revenue coming from the rich is not what it ought to be. We make this statement for no other purpose than that our government might know that while the masses are willing to give up every dollar that they have, the rich should be made to give up also. Ninety-two per cent. of the army is taken from out of the ranks of the working people. We give up the blood, the muscle and the sinews of our people, and we are also willing to give up our dollars, but greater sacrifice should be made by the wealthy of our nation.

In this issue we will not say anything about employers who are making fabulous fortunes through war contracts. It is impossible for the government to regulate all conditions at this time, but as the days and months go on, undoubtedly all those matters will be gone into and if we remain in the war for two or three years—and several prominent government officials seem to think we will—by the end of that time we may be able to straighten out, or clean out, some of those institutions whose patriotic ambitions are based on the amount of money they can make as a result of the war. In the meantime, for our own protection, as we are in the majority, let us do everything in our power to the end that our country may be successful in this struggle for human rights.

IN THE March issue of our Journal, a statement appeared in which I dealt with a case in St. Louis, where five men in the milk industry were arrested and charged with the destruction of food. It seems that one or two milk wagons belonging to an unfair dairy, which is the only unfair dairy in St. Louis, was stopped by some unknown parties and a few bottles of milk tipped out of the wagon. On the evidence of the owner there was not more than \$35.00 worth of damage done. However,

five men, all of good reputation, were arrested and brought in under the federal act, charged with destroying food and held on \$10,000 bonds.

The General President took the matter up with the Department of Labor in Washington, who, in turn, took it up with the Department of Justice. The General President claimed that if this condition was allowed to continue, that the Employers' Association, which is very powerful in many of the large industrial centers, could reach the local United States District Attorneys and have our unions destroyed by digging up technical supposed violations of federal laws. In other words, the General President claimed that in St. Louis that the federal law was being used as a subterfuge to destroy our organization.

As stated above, the matter was brought to the attention of the Department of Justice by the Department of Labor. The Department of Labor sent one of its best men into the district to make an investigation and he corroborated the statement made by your General President, with the result that when the case came to trial it was dismissed. The District Attorney attempted to again reindict the men. We received information this morning that the grand jury for the last term, in making their report, stated they could not find anything against the men and refused to reindict them, and in the United States Court, Judge Dyer dismissed the case. This ends the matter. It has been proven clearly that holding men under \$50,000 bonds on the charge of destroying \$35.00 worth of property (and as stated in the March Journal, if the owner or employer said it was only \$35.00, the chances are the amount of damage done was a great deal less), that the influence of the Employers' Association did not work, and the United States government, as run from Washington, after an investigation being made on the request of your International officers, refused to be a party to breaking up a legitimate trade union that was endeavoring to better the conditions of its membership through legitimate organization.

AT THIS writing the patriotic owners of the department stores in Cincinnati have decided to do no business whatever with the department store drivers' union. There are one hundred of those men in our union and they have been organized for over a year, but when they presented their wage scale about a month ago, the employers refused to grant them even the slightest consideration. The department stores of the country are making money, especially in Cincinnati. The heads of those establishments got together and decided that they would send a letter to their drivers, and they did; and the substance of the letter was, that unless they would come in that night and sign a contract, which meant that they must give up their union, they would have nothing more to do with them. The men refused to sign this contract, and as a result about twenty men were locked out, because they refused to give up their union. The International Union is now handling the affair, and we intend, if we have to do so, to refuse to let any of our truck drivers or coal drivers make deliveries to the department stores. It is another example of the splendid American spirit shown by the so-called patriotic element of the upper class, the financial, business kings of the country.

There are a great many of those men, and while we cannot see the inside of their hearts, every now and then we are forced to believe their Americanism is very shallow. They take no heed whatever of the decision of the Taft Committee in Washington, which is that men have

the right to organize and that unions should be recognized by employers, and that in proportion to the increased cost of living that working men and women should be given increased wages. To those men this does not mean anything and the locking out of their men seems to be their only solution for the adjustment of labor disputes and in this they seem to always have the support of the local Chamber of Commerce, or the local so-called Business Men's Association, which in every one of those institutions have branches which are nothing more or less than strike-breaking agencies. But the secret of the matter is this: The employers or owners of the department stores are not so much afraid of the drivers or chauffeurs organizing insofar as granting them an increase in wages; what they are afraid of is that if they give any recognition to a union of drivers and chauffeurs, that their workers, and there are thousands of them throughout the country, who are receiving lower wages and are working under worse conditions than even those in the slaughter houses (which the government recently investigated), who might organize into a union and demand better wages. There are hundreds of inside girls and young men selling goods over the counter who if they were organized and could get the government to make an investigation, the government might force those unscrupulous men, those owners of the department stores to pay decent wages to the young men and women working on the inside of their stores. That is why the owners of department stores in every section of the country fight against the organization of their drivers and chauffeurs. They are afraid of the light of day penetrating into their several establishments. They want their girls to dress like ladies on \$6.00 or \$7.00 a week. The investigation of the legislative committee appointed by the State Legislature in Illinois, in digging into the condition in the department stores in Chicago, exposed such rottenness that it was a disgrace to our country to think such a condition existed. Young women working for \$8.00 and \$9.00 a week and compelled to dress so that they might give tone and dignity to their department on such miserable wages, suggesting anything but a good, moral life for the young woman. The owners of the stores testified that they realized that in many instances the girls could not live on their income from the stores, but in cases where there were three or four in the family, it made living cheaper. The legislature of Illinois brought out facts that were of such a nature that the community was horrified, yet having no real power in the premises, the legislature was unable to enact proper legislation. They did enact some kind of a law establishing a minimum wage of something around \$8.50 per week, since that investigation which took place before the war, conditions have changed materially, and \$8.50 a week five years ago was more than what \$12.00 is today. In the very city in which I am writing this article there are department stores doing volumes of business, where it is safe to say that the average wage in the institution is not more than \$7.00 a week, and still we talk of freedom and democracy. We preach about our splendid institutions and we allow our young women to work for wages that we know they cannot possibly live on, and we allow department store owners to stand right up and defy their men workers and say they will not recognize them as an organization, but the day is coming when the light will again penetrate into those industries, if we are successful in this war, and the unjust profits made by those employers because of the poor wages paid the workers in those department stores will be taken over by the government and redistributed to the parties to whom they rightfully belong—the workers.

ON SATURDAY evening, May 4th, a few of the very intimate friends of Brother William Neer, President of the Chicago Joint Council, tendered him a banquet and at the banquet a beautiful present was given to him, which was procured by those few friends in recognition of the splendid services he has rendered our organization in Chicago and elsewhere and in remembrance of the warm personal, friendly feeling those friends entertain for him. The banquet was served by union waitresses in King's banquet hall and the presentation was made by General Secretary-Treasurer Hughes. As expressed by many of the members, of course the token was nothing except a mere reminder of the feeling existing toward Brother Neer.

Many stories were told at the banquet of conditions as they existed prior to and since the formation of our organization in Chicago. Steve Sumner told of the feeling he had when he first became a member of the union, of the changes that have taken place, and no place were these changes more noticeable than at that gathering where so many officers were sitting without either smoking or drinking, and he reminded us that a few years ago the officers then would have been celebrating in "Sparrow Park." I might say in passing that some present were anxious to smoke, but Steve would not permit it.

The gathering broke up about 1 o'clock a. m., Sunday, and would not have broken up then were it not for the fact that Philip Schug, of Kensington, made the statement that his wife was still waiting for him down town.

It is safe to say that there is no man in our International Union that has worked harder to keep peace, harmony and prosperity in our unions in any district than has Brother Neer in Chicago. There is more than one union in existence today that were it not for his advice and for the financial assistance which he advocated in Local No. 753, the local of which he is Secretary-Treasurer, be given these locals, it is safe to say they would not be in existence. There is more than one local in Chicago that was helped to the extent of hundreds of dollars by Brother Neer. No one knows the troubled mind that he has had to carry home with him more than once, caused by disturbing matters or conditions existing in unions outside of his own local. It is all well enough to say, we all have to do those things, we all have such feelings, but there are some minds that are not capable of undergoing those tortures and there are some men in our union who never pay any attention to anything so long as they are getting "by" themselves. Brother Neer is not of that kind. It is not in his make-up. In every section of the country where the milk drivers of Chicago and Brother Neer could assist a local, they have never refused to do so. In the judgment of the writer the only fault of Brother Neer is that he is too tender-hearted, too anxious to give, and unscrupulous men, a few of whom we shall always have with us, have on more than one occasion taken advantage of his generosity and his fairness. But eliminating the work he has done for the union, which, in his modest way, he says, was only his duty, the gathering of his friends was more for the purpose of expressing their undying friendship for him than for any other reason. Men are bound morally to recognize services unselfishly given. Unless we recognize the sacrifices men make, we are not the right kind of men. Unless the spirit of friendship still springs within the human breast all other senses are of no avail. It is well to live and merit the undying friendship of those with whom you have worked. No greater monument can be erected to any man than to have his fellowmen who

have toiled with him day in and day out express their feelings of friendship for him and pledge their endorsement of the truthfulness and honesty of purpose which has always governed his actions. The Editor expresses the hope that the little token given Brother Neer may always be a reminder of the friendship existing for him in the minds of those who were seated with him at King's on the evening of May 4th, also those who could not be present on that evening, but who were there in spirit.

OUR WAR PREPARATIONS

It is to be regretted that more persons did not hear W. A. Appleton of the British labor commission, who spoke in Tomlinson Hall, Indianapolis, recently. He told a graphic story of England's preparation for the war preparations made after the war was on.

It is interesting to note that on the same day that Harry New, Republican Senator from Indiana, was delivering an attack on our government's activities in producing aeroplanes, this Englishman, who has been in close touch with every move of the war, was expressing his astonishment over how much the United States had accomplished.

It always is the same story. When men who know the war conditions and war history come to us from overseas they are astonished with what has been accomplished in the United States. They are almost extravagant in their praise of our progress for war on an unprecedented scale. French experts, English and Italian experts testify to the marvelous accomplishments, the efficient management, in our war program. They invariably speak of the lack of serious blundering and express the conviction that we are profiting by the experience of others and are avoiding costly blunders and the resultant delays.

Only the partisan critic here at home is blinded to what has been done. Only the partisan critic here at home takes the trivial mistakes which might have been expected in any national undertaking, and

makes of them the foreground of a dreary picture.

The distinguished labor leader from England told his audience that when England's first army went to France it was but one-seventeenth equipped, it lacked guns, it lacked shells, it lacked everything necessary to make it effective. He said there were days when ammunition was restricted to three shells a day per gun, a circumstance which accounts for the prevalence of bayonet fighting in the early days of the war. He said that when war broke out England had three real munition plants. That Kitchener's first call was for 300,000 men only because he knew he couldn't equip more by the time they were trained.

And England was just across the channel from Germany. And our Republican critics are saying much about what we haven't done and what England has done.

Senator New's attack on the aeroplane division appears to be 50 per cent. partisan spleen, 40 per cent. misinformation and 10 per cent. truth.

The only reason why these Republicans make these attacks is because they know the truth of the situation cannot be stated at this time, because to state it would be to tip off to the enemy just what is being done. With the administration gagged by military necessity, these partisan critics may make the most extravagant charges without fear of being discredited through a presentation of the actual conditions.

CORRESPONDENCE



NEW YORK, N Y.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—At the meeting of the C. L. U. of Brooklyn on May 9, 1918, Brother William F. Kehoe of the Van Teamsters' Local No. 273 was unanimously elected delegate to the A. F. of L. convention. I write this so that it may be seen in the next issue of the Magazine, and also to show that the teamsters are fast getting where they belong and receiving recognition in the labor movement.

Fraternally yours,
TIMOTHY CONROY,
Secretary Joint Council.

CHICKASHA, OKLA.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I am sending you a corrected mailing list of our membership as near as I can get it. Work is plentiful, but we find it a difficult matter to keep our local in good working condition, as members change around quite often. Many have gone to the army, some to the draft and others volunteering. The employers complain of the scarcity of men and often employ men who are not desirable as members and who hold a job only a short time. Most all the time there are non-union men working, but the employers say they must get the work out and that it is up to us to organize them. If they do not make application for membership they are discharged, but it is usually the same class that takes their places. There is no unfriendly feeling, however, as we fully realize the conditions and are trying to co-op-

erate with the employers to keep things in the best possible shape.

I think the employers here take a different view of the teamsters' union now than some have taken in the past, for they often express themselves as to the unsatisfactory manner in which those new men do their work and they are constantly making inquiry for union teamsters. Our union is in fair shape financially. We have donated liberally to the Red Cross and invested in Liberty bonds.

Fraternally,
JOE BELCHER,
Secretary-Treasurer Local 231.

TERRE HAUTE, IND.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—A few days ago I wrote you stating the transfer men had quit their jobs until the team owners would sign their contract, but after one day the contracts were signed and all of the men are back at work with a five dollar a week increase and better conditions than they ever had before. Both sides seem to be well satisfied and we signed contracts with some companies where we never before had a contract. We feel sure we will get some new members in our local, at least everyone has his shoulder to the wheel and is working hard for Local 144 and our International.

Fraternally yours,
W. F. BOSWELL,
Secretary Local 144.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—At the regular meeting of the Milk Wagon

Drivers' Union Local No. 471 on April 16, 1918, I was instructed to notify the General Office that J. E. Labo, who acted as secretary-treasurer and business agent for one year up to August 1, 1917, misappropriated the funds of our organization to the extent of \$500. After six months of watchful waiting we got \$303.13, which was the amount the bonding company was willing to give us in settlement of the case. Brother Labo through some of his relatives raised the amount and the organization accepted the money from Labo in order to save him from going to jail.

Brother Labo has left Minneapolis and as far as we can find out is in Chicago and our aim is to warn the International Brotherhood in Chicago and elsewhere not to let Mr. Labo have anything to do with their finances. He has not paid any dues to our organization in this city since he was discharged by Local 471 and will have to square himself with our local before becoming a member of any other organization.

Faternally yours,

EDW. SOLEM,
Secretary-Treasurer No. 471.

CHICAGO, ILL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I am writing to let you know that the membership of Local Union No. 710, under the new award of Judge Alschuler's decision on the packing-house industry in Chicago, has obtained an increase in wages of 6 cents an hour from January 14 to February 14 and an increase of 3½ cents per hour from February 14 up to the present time and have decided to increase their dues on each member 25 cents per month over and above what they have been paying. They have also raised my salary as secretary-

treasurer \$5 per week. The meeting was very largely attended and we had a splendid representation of our membership who were very orderly and attentive to business during the meeting. Our membership is becoming more interested and listened to everything that was said and done. It was one of the largest meetings we have held for years past. I told them some plain truths, as this is the first time I have had an opportunity to speak to so many of our membership at a meeting. I advised them to attend their meetings in the future, as in my opinion it is the duty of every member of our union to attend a meeting at least once a month so that they may know what takes place in the organization. They should know how much money we have in the treasury, how it is being spent, and how the local is being conducted. This is a cold-blooded business proposition and each member should take a special interest in his organization. The union is not for any one man. Our local is instituted and maintained principally for the purpose of aiding every individual member of Local 710 and incidentally furthering and helping to carry out the principles of our International Union.

Due to the fact that we have made such progress recently in our conditions, I thought I would write you this letter for publication in the Journal so that the other members throughout the country would hear from our union and know what we are doing.

With very best wishes for yourself and the continued success of our International Union, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

GEORGE F. GOLDEN,
Secretary-Treasurer Local 710.

Back wages being paid by Chicago packers on recent wage award will total \$4,050,000.

MISCELLANY



WISE WORDS BY GOMPERS

"The old order is changing. War has speeded up the change so that into a few months have been crowded milestones that ordinarily it would have required decades to reach. Employers have understood the change. They know that their power over lives of men is dwindling. They know that under the new order opportunities and property are being used for the common welfare of all.

"The change has been brought about by the power of tools in the hands of workers who know the indispensable character of their work. Tools are forging, link by link, cables of safety reaching out from American freedom to all parts of the world where free men may seek their interests.

"Certain employers are grasping after their vanishing autocracy. They seek to destroy labor by placing upon it the responsibility for any failure in the war program. They would make the tools of labor fashion chains to shackle the workers to jobs. They would conscript free labor.

"The rank and file of America's workers know the value of freedom. They war against an autocracy that has reared its head to menace world freedom. Some workers may make mistakes—who is infallible, the employers? But the remedy for those mistakes is intelligent effort to point out the better way and to instill into the minds and consciences of the rank and file of labor that our Government owes justice to all.

"As I know the power and the conscience of labor from the depths of my heart, I hope nothing will be done to hamper the con-

structive work of the organized effort of free workers who have been rendering indispensable work and who will stand faithful until victory comes."—Gompers.

LABOR AND EMPLOYERS

Secretary Daniels of the Navy said, coming to the burden of his address: "I do not believe there has ever been a time in history when labor and the employers of labor were more closely united than at present.

"You read of the strike of 10,000 men and become alarmed. But you forget that, while 10,000 men are striking, 10,000,000 of others are working—are doing work which the pessimistic critic would never think of doing. In the coldest days which we have just experienced, tens of thousands of workmen were out in the open, driving rivets for our ships, while the critics were staying warm in their homes and offices doing nothing.

"You can't do the work necessary at a banquet table criticising labor. I personally witnessed 60,000 men at work in the open, during the coldest day of the recent spell, running the risk of pneumonia and death, repairing ships that food might be sent to our men in France. Labor can't be paid for this work in money. There isn't enough money to pay for it. It is their sacrifice and they are making it willingly and nobly.

"If now and then men strike for higher wages, let us not forget that men of capital have held up the Government for profiteering. But I thank God that now 90 per cent. of capital, as well as 90 per cent. of labor, is standing loyal and true."

ROOSEVELT AND 1920

Republican circles are buzzing with plans for a grand reunion of the party behind Theodore Roosevelt. Mr. Roosevelt, the story goes, is soon to make a speech coming out strongly for "labor." Not organized labor, mind you, not labor working out its own salvation through democratically organized voluntary groups. But "labor" in the German conception—men and women of burden who should be well fed and well housed in order that all ground for complaint and all cause for restlessness shall be removed, men and women protected by benevolent schemes of legislation and insurance of the Bismarckian type. Given that, and a system of permanent compulsory military service—a cardinal plank, by the way—and you have nothing to fear from those who propose fundamental changes in our economic order. Mr. Roosevelt, too, will have a plank or two for the farmers, and for the tenant farmers—probably some scheme of land colonization by which we might set up a class of contented peasants, each with his cottage and two or three, or even ten, acres of land. At least, it will be a good talking plank, and it will not seriously threaten those enterprising, virile, red-blooded Americans who, through superior ability, have pre-empted for themselves more or less extensive tracts of land which they now hold out of use for themselves or their children. One can almost hear solicitors for the Republican campaign fund, explaining to puzzled men of wealth that these planks are all things the Colonel insisted upon as absolutely necessary if they are to get the farmer vote and the labor vote and what might be called the lets-do-something-about-it vote. And having calmed conservative fears, the solicitor would hurry on to his really strong points—the need of ade-

quate tariff restrictions, the necessity of tenderly nurturing our new merchant marine, the importance of foreign trade and foreign contracts and concessions, and of a big army and navy and a President not "too proud to fight" to protect them—a President who had proved in Panama and elsewhere that no squeamish sentimentality should stand in the way of American enterprise.—The Public, New York.

POLITE, FAIR AND HELPFUL

Courtesy, square dealing and service are required by the Internal Revenue Bureau of its thousands of employes who are aiding in the collection of war revenues. A manual has been sent out for their use with the purpose of making as pleasant as possible the task of the American citizen to find out what his federal taxes are and how to pay them.

The internal revenue officers are instructed to inform the taxpayer of all his rights, to require of him not 1 cent more than the law demands, while at the same time securing for the government all that justly is due it.

It is estimated that 7,000,000 American citizens will pay income taxes this year—a great increase from the few hundred thousand heretofore paying such taxes.

The work of estimating and collecting taxes from such a great number of citizens is one of great magnitude, and that it should be done fairly and without friction is an achievement worth much effort.

The United States Navy Department and labor union leaders have agreed upon new wage scale for civil employes in shipyards of the Pacific Coast providing general advance of about 20 per cent., making average daily wage for skilled workmen \$5.60 to \$5.80.

The International Union, on instructions from the General Executive Board, affiliated with the Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor. We feel that this is one of the most valuable departments in the American Federation of Labor. The money we will contribute to it will be money well spent in advertising the button of the teamsters and chauffeurs in our organization. Trade unionists and their friends outside of our organization pay very little attention to our union button or union book which each member should always carry with him. The Union Label department sends out volumes of letters circularizing every part of the country advocating the purchase of products which are union-made and from now on they will request that each person sees to it that a union driver or chauffeur delivers the goods. All great institutions should advertise and our affiliation with the Label Trades department is merely a business proposition, as we believe in the principle—"It Pays to Advertise." As stated above, the money we will contribute to this department will be money paid for advertising our organization. Of course, it is going to add to our expenses without any increase in revenue, but we think we can take care of the situation until the time comes when our revenue will be increased. The union label department of the American Federation of Labor cannot order any organizations on strike. One of the reasons we were a little afraid of the other departments was the fact we might be involved in strikes where we would not be able to take care of said strikes. This cannot happen because of our affiliation with this department. There are also local organizations of the Union Label department in every city throughout the country, and our locals, if they desire to do so, can affiliate with the local label unions which are run in connection with the central bodies.

Official Magazine
of the
International Brotherhood
of Teamsters, Chauffeurs
Stablemen and Helpers
of America

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